

Message Text

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PAGE 01 SAIGON 00910 241532Z

41

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-09 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 USIE-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-02 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 ACDA-10 AID-05 DPW-01

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P R 241150Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2158

INFO AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY JAKARTA

USDEL JEC PARIS

AMEMBASSY GENEVA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

AMEMBASSY STOCKHOLM

AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

UNCLAS SAIGON 00910

DEPARTMENT PASS USIA FOR IBS/NCA

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR VS

SUBJECT: RVN PRESS CONFERENCE ON ANNIVERSARY OF
PARIS AGREEMENT

REF: SAIGON 867

1. BRIGADIER GENERAL HIEP, CHIEF OF RVN DELEGATION TO TPJMC, HELD
PRESS CONFERENCE JANUARY 24 IN ANTICIPATION OF SECOND ANNIVERSARY OF
SIGNATURE OF PARIS AGREEMENT. IN OPENING STATEMENT HE REVIEWED
COMMUNIST BREACHES OF THE CEASE-FIRE AND SUSPENSION OF
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PAGE 02 SAIGON 00910 241532Z

PARTICIPATION IN TPJMC, BUT STRESSED RVN CONTINUED "STRICT RESPECT"

FOR PARIS AGREEMENT. HE STATED, " WE WILL ALWAYS PATIENTLY WAIT FOR THEM HERE, PATIENTLY CONTINUE DISPLAYING OUR GOODWILL SO AS TO MAKE THE COMMUNISTS KNOW CLEARLY THAT THE BEST AND MOST CORRECT WAY TO SOLVE THE PROBLEM IS TO RESPOND TO THE RVN GOVERNMENT'S APPEAL FOR A RETURN TO THE CONFERENCE TABLE, ISSUED 7 NOVEMBER 1974, AN APPEAL THAT WAS REPEATED IN THE 3 JANUARY 1975 DECLARATION AND AGAIN IN THIS STATEMENT."

2. AT CONCLUSION OF OPENING STATEMENT, COPIES WERE HANDED OUT OF DECLARATION OF RVN ON 24 JANUARY 1975 MARKING TWO YEARS OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AGREEMENT ON ENDING THE WAR AND RESTORING PEACE IN VIETNAM (REFTEL), AND LENGTHY WHITE BOOK (POUCHED TO EA/VN). HIEP THEN CONDUCTED QUESTION AND ANSWER SESSION.

3. KEY QUESTION POSED TO HIEP WAS HOW MANY COMMUNIST TROOPS HAVE INFILTRATED INTO VIETNAM SINCE CEASE-FIRE. HIEP PUT THE NUMBER AT 340,000 AND SPECIFIED THAT NORTH VIETNAMESE HAD A TOTAL OF 15 DIVISIONS IN SOUTH VIETNAM, INCLUDING 11 INFANTRY DIVISIONS, 2 ANTI-AIRCRAFT, 1 ARTILLERY AND 1 SAPPER. HOWEVER, THEY HAVE NOW INCREASED THISNUMBER TO 20 WITH THE ADDITION OF FIVE NEW DIVISIONS.

4. HIEP POINTED OUT THAT THE NORTH VIETNAMESE 968TH DIVISION HAD RECENTLY MOVED INTO SOUTH VIETNAM NEAR KONTUM FROM LOWER LAOS (A PARTICULARLY FLAGRANT BREACH OF THE PARIS AGREEMENT).

5. THE PRESS CONFERENCE WAS ATTENDED BY REPRESENTATIVES OF ALL MAJOR NEWS SERVICES.

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Message Attributes

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